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1971/01/18

HAK'D

Department of State TELEGRAM

SECRET

R 181135Z JAN 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 172
INFO RUEHCR/USDEL FRANCE 8137
BT
S E C R E T SAIGON 0802

CONTROL: 3 8 0 1Q
RECD: 18 JAN 12 27Z

NODIS/PARIS MEETINGS

SUBJECT: GVN PW INITIATIVE.

REF : SAIGON 742

1. FOREIGN MINISTER LAM HAS OBTAINED THE AGREEMENT OF PRESIDENT THIEU TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE GVN INITIATIVE ON SICK AND WOUNDED PW UNTIL AFTER JAN 24. WE HAVE TOLD FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT WE WILL CONTACT THEM IF, IN THE INTERIM, WE OBTAIN FURTHER SUGGESTIONS FROM WASHINGTON AS TO HOW THEIR PROPOSAL MIGHT BE MADE IN A MANNER COMPATIBLE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION. WE WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY SUGGESTIONS THE DEPT MAY HAVE ON THIS POINT BY FRIDAY, JAN 22.

2. WE WOULD NOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE POSTPONEMENT MIGHT BECOME AN INDEFINITE ONE, ALTHOUGH IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER STILL WISHES TO ANNOUNCE A GVN PW INITIATIVE IF THE OBJECTIONS WE FOUND IN THEIR EARLIER PROPOSAL CAN BE OVERCOME.

BUNKER

71 JAN 18 AM 9:16
WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

SECRET

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Authority EO 12958
By JW NARA Date 3-9-00